

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4 and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend Claims 1, 2, 7 to 14, 19 and 21 to 23 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus for remotely ~~controlling~~ operating a first apparatus in a network protected by a firewall from outside of the firewall, comprising:

a reception device configured to receive ~~means for receiving~~ predetermined information from the first apparatus; and

a determination device configured to determine operation information for remotely operating the first apparatus based on the received predetermined information;
and

a transmission device configured to transmit the ~~means for transmitting~~ operation information to the first apparatus as a response to the predetermined information received by the reception device ~~means~~, ~~the operation information being transmitted to remotely operate the first apparatus.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first apparatus monitors a state of a second apparatus, and wherein the predetermined information includes information concerning the state of the second apparatus.

3. (Original) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined information includes request information for requesting establishment of a stream connection.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Original) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined information is transmitted using HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol).
6. (Original) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein SSL (Secure Socket Layer) is used to transmit the predetermined information.
7. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transmission ~~means~~ device transmits the operation information when a predetermined period of time has passed since the reception of the predetermined information.
8. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first apparatus monitors a state of a second apparatus and operates the second apparatus, and wherein the predetermined information is one of state information showing the state of the second apparatus and request information for requesting

transmission of the operation information, the first apparatus operating the second apparatus according to the operation information.

9. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the transmission ~~means~~ device also transmits a response to the state information.

10. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 9, wherein when transmitting the operation information, the transmission ~~means~~ device transmits the operation information when a predetermined period of time has passed since the reception of the predetermined information, and wherein when transmitting the response, the transmission ~~means~~ device transmits the response immediately after the reception of the predetermined information.

11. (Currently Amended) A remote-operating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transmission ~~means~~ device transmits the operation information when a predetermined period of time has passed since the reception of the predetermined information, and wherein if a plurality of pieces of operation information are generated during the predetermined period of time, the transmission ~~means~~ device transmits the plurality of pieces of operation information by one operation.

12. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus in a network protected by a firewall, comprising:

[[a]] transmission means for transmitting predetermined information, upon which operation information for remotely operating the information processing apparatus is based, to a remote-operating apparatus outside of the firewall;

[[a]] reception means for receiving the remote operation information transmitted from the remote-operating apparatus as a response to the predetermined information; and

[[a]] control means for performing control based on the remote operation information received by the reception means.

13. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the control means operates a second apparatus based on the remote operation information.

14. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the information processing apparatus monitors is an apparatus for monitoring a state of a second apparatus, and wherein the predetermined information includes information concerning the state of the second apparatus.

15. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined information includes information for requesting establishment of a stream connection.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined information is transmitted using HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol).

18. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined information is transmitted using the HTTP on an SSL (Secure Socket Layer).

19. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the information processing apparatus monitors ~~is an~~ apparatus ~~for monitoring~~ a state of a second apparatus and operates ~~operating~~ the second apparatus, and wherein the predetermined information is one of state information showing the state of the second apparatus and request information requesting information for operating the second apparatus.

20. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the reception means also transmits a response to the state information.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of remotely operating a first apparatus in a network protected by a firewall using a remote-operating apparatus from outside the firewall, comprising the steps of:

transmitting predetermined information from the first apparatus to the remote-operating apparatus;

determining operation information for remotely operating the first apparatus based on the predetermined information; and

transmitting the operation information from the remote-operating apparatus to the first apparatus as a response to the predetermined information; ~~the operation information for remotely operating the first apparatus.~~

22. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling ~~a remote-operating apparatus for remotely operating a first apparatus~~ in a network protected by a firewall from a remote-operating apparatus outside of the firewall, comprising:

a reception step for receiving predetermined information from the first apparatus;

a determination step for determining operation information for remotely operating the first apparatus based on the received predetermined information; and

a transmission step for transmitting the operation information to the first apparatus as a response to the predetermined information received in the reception step; ~~the operation information for remotely operating the first apparatus.~~

23. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a network protected by a firewall, comprising:

a transmission step for transmitting predetermined information, upon which operation information for remotely operating the information apparatus is based, to a remote-operating apparatus outside of the firewall;

a reception step for receiving the remote operation information transmitted from the remote-operating apparatus as a response to the predetermined information; and

a control step for performing control based on the remote operation information received in the reception step.